

ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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POLICE DEPARTMENT CHET EPPERSON CHIEF OF POLICE

TRAFFIC RELEASE

DATE & TIME 08/22/11 1:30 PM

Bureau: Field Services Bureau

Authorized Supervisor: Lieutenant Christine Bishop

Phone: 815-987-5835

Incident: Labor Day Holiday Traffic Enforcement



MESSAGE

The Rockford Police Department Begins Late-Night Enforcement Crackdown

Impaired Driving and Safety Belt Enforcement

The Rockford Police announced plans for the 2011 Labor Day "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" Impaired Driving Crackdown; the intensified enforcement effort against the overwhelming number of late-night impaired drivers and safety belt violators.

According to data from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the midnight to 3 a.m. timeframe is the deadliest time on Illinois roadways. Not coincidentally, the data also shows this time of day has the highest percentage of alcohol involvement and the lowest safety belt usage rate.

The Rockford Police Department will be stepping up late-night enforcement efforts, making sure impaired drivers are off the road and motorists are buckled up. It is always wise to:

- Plan ahead. Designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys.
- If you are impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely.
- Promptly report impaired drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement;
- Wear your safety belt and make sure all passengers are buckled up. It is your best defense against an impaired driver.

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